CR-AVE Flight Summary 30 January 2006 All times given in CST

General Information

Flight date - 30 January 2006

Flight description – Flight 7 CR-AVE In Situ Payload Data Flight (10th flight)

Flight duration - 4.0 hours

Crew - Bill Rieke, Dom Del Rosso

Instruments flown (25): 2DS, ACAM, ALIAS, Argus, CAFS, CAPS, CIMS, CO₂, CPI, CSI, FCAS, Frostpoint, ICOS, JLH, MACS, MMS, MTP, NMASS, Ozone, PALMS, PANTHER, PT, Scanning-HIS, WAS, Water Vapor

Flight Log

Engine Start	9:30 am	Takeoff	10:12 am	Approach	1:50 pm
Data Rec On	9:55 am	Begin Descent	1:28 pm	Landing	2:08 pm

Gear extensions/retractions

Gear Up	10:12 am			
Gear Down	2:02 pm			

Weather Observations

Climb-Out

- · Passed through broken layer at 27 kft
- Low cirrus at 37 kft
- Enroute, nearly continuous lower cloud to broken
- · Generally clear over water, with lightly scattered cirrus in direct path until southern end
- Target area completely cloud-covered to 41 kft
- No significant isolated vertical development observed
- · Difficult to ascertain any higher- level blow-off from thunderstorms

Cruise

- · Generally unrestricted climb to 49 kft
- MMS maneuvers at 49 kft
- Unable to determine individual thunderstorms for cirrus fly-through
- Descent over MROC unrestricted to 25 kft; contrails visible. Clouds immediately overhead MROC. Continued descent west of field.

Flight Profile

- 10:21 am 27 kft Broken layer on climb-out
- 10:25 am 37 kft Low cirrus layer on climb-out
- 10:38 am 49 kft
- 10:46 am 49 kft Took two photos east/west of solid cloud deck
- 10:50 am 49 kft Light turbulence
- 10:53 am 49 kft MMS pitch and yaw maneuvers
- 10:59 am 49 kft Waypoint 3; took two photos east/west
- 11:04 am 49 kft Light turbulence
- 11:11 am 49 kft Light turbulence; waypoint 5; took photo of thunderstorm top (north)
- 11:22 am 49 kft Took photo of distant anvil cirrus (south)
- 11:23 am 49 kft Took photo 300 degrees along track
- 11:36 am 49 kft Light turbulence; extended past waypoint 5; thin cirrus
- 11:42 am 49 kft Made a right turn to waypoint 6; took a photo (30 degrees)
- 11:55 am 41 kft Skimmed tops of cloud deck; noted CAPS display numbers
- 12:07 pm 34 to 36 kft Descent into cloud layer
- 12:12 pm 34 kft In solid layer with no bottom; ALIAS failed
- 12:13 pm 34 kft PALMS Cloud switch on
- 12:16 pm 34 kft Light turbulence, ALIAS reset after two tries
- 12:19 pm Began return to base
- 12:22 pm PALMS Cloud switch off
- 1:16 pm 61.5 kft Begin descent after zoom
- 1:18 pm 57 kft Performed MMS box maneuver
- 1:22 pm Took two photos over MROC
- 1:28 pm 57 kft Flew back through contrails; turned on WAS 2
- 1:38 pm 42 kft Thin layer; no cloud penetration
- 1:55 pm 10 kft Low broken layer

Instrument Notes

- Climb past 5 kft at 10:13 am
- Climb past 10 kft at 10:14 am
- Climb past 18 kft at 10:18 am
- · ALIAS failed and reset after two tries